

Senator Arlene Nelson.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Nelson. Your amendment is the first one up, Senator Nelson.

CLERK: Senator, this amendment was an amendment to insert a new section, essentially an operative date. "This act shall become operative on January 1, 1986 and shall not apply to cases filed before such date."

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. President and members of the body, I believe Senator DeCamp, Labedz and some have an additional later amendment and we would defer my amendment until after their amendment is heard.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, we will consider it withdrawn.

SENATOR NELSON: It simply delays it until January of '86 and that any cases on the book would not apply.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, we will consider it withdrawn, Senator Nelson, and if you wish to submit it again later, then that is your prerogative to do that.

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Next amendment, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, excuse me, Senator. Mr. President, the next amendment is by Senator Higgins. Senator, you had an amendment. This is the one printed on page 785 of the Journal.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Believe it or not this is a real simple amendment. This amendment would be added at the bottom of page 2 of the bill and it merely says to insert the following paragraph: "Prejudgment interest shall be paid directly to the plaintiff. Payment shall be made by issuing a check directly for such interest in the plaintiff's name only. Such interest shall not be included in computing fees for attorneys." My reason for offering this amendment was in the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee hearing it was often said, and I think even the World Herald editorial that Senator Chambers sent around today for some other purpose said, that the bill was brought to us by the trial attorneys. And as I have said